Access to quality education

2171. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI DARA SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aiming to make quality school education accessible in every part of the country and propose to launch one of its most ambitious initiative, besides SSA, in opening 6,000 Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(b) whether any meeting of State Education Ministers to implement the education for all scheme has been called, so far;

(c) if so, what is the expected cost of the project and what would be the approximate construction charges of a KV and its annual recurring cost; and

(d) the details of KVs opened so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) A concept note has been prepared for implementing a scheme for universalisation of access to and improvement of quality of education at secondary stage during Eleventh Five Year Plan. The main objective of the scheme is to provide access to good quality secondary schools within a reasonable distance of every habitation. However, there is no proposal at present for opening of 6000 Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs).

(b) A meeting was held with State Education Ministers on 10-11 April, 2007.

(c) The allocation for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan during 2007-08 is Rs. 10,671 crore.

Approximate construction cost of a KV having two sections from Class I to Class XII is Rs. 4.00 crore. The annual recurring expenditure for such a school is about Rs. 92 lakh.

(d) There are 971 functional KVs at present.

New education policy

2172. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate a new education policy;

(b) whether exercise for the purpose has begun;

(c) whether State Governments have been consulted in the matter;

(d) whether imparting of sex education is proposed to be covered under the policy; and

(e) whether the new policy proposes to re-emphasize, in a more determined manner, the eradication of superstitious beliefs prevailing in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) The matter is under consideration.